

**TESTIMONY OF JON CRANE IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 90**

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE HEARING**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2009**

Good morning Senator Harris, Representative Ritter and other distinguished members of the Public Health Committee.

My name is Jon Crane and I live in Burlington, Connecticut.

I am here in support of Senate Bill 90.

In 2007 my public relations firm was approached by Victims of Chiropractic Abuse to help raise awareness of the health risks associated with chiropractic care.

As a journalist for nearly two decades...the last eight of those years at News Channel 8 in New Haven...I was skeptical by training, so prior to accepting the assignment I did some research.

With little effort I was able to independently confirm through authoritative peer-reviewed medical sources that chiropractic stroke is a medical fact.

And I was shocked when I discovered that chiropractic leaders had known for years that chiropractic manipulation was a risk factor for stroke.

As someone who had benefitted from chiropractic care through the years, but had never been informed of any risk prior to neck adjustments, I decided this was a worthy cause; that people like me need to know the risks prior to consenting to treatment.

In the two years since then I've encountered many survivors of chiropractic stroke and I have been moved by their stories.

Sadly, I have also witnessed first-hand the chiropractic industry using its influence to try and silence my client.

These experiences have compelled me to testify today.

I know that many survivors of chiropractic stroke would also like to be testifying today, but are prevented by gag orders in their legal settlements, ongoing litigation, or physical or emotional disabilities caused by the injuries they suffered.

The chiropractic industry's own published information is illuminating.

According to the World Chiropractic Alliance, the incidence of stroke associated with chiropractic care is estimated to be between one and three, per million adjustments.

According to the International Chiropractors Association, chiropractic adjustment is performed nearly one million times each day in the U.S.

If their statistics are correct, that would mean 1-to-3 people each working day in the United States have a stroke caused by chiropractic care.

That may not seem like a lot to some people, unless of course it happens to you or someone you love.

In 2007 the then-President of the Connecticut Chiropractic Association, Matthew Pagano, was quoted in the ACA News as saying, "a public debate will only serve to make the community more aware that there's a relationship between chiropractic and stroke."

They don't want the public to know.

I believe the time has come for chiropractic patients to be able to make informed choices about their health care.

Thank you.